

1. [2360/070822 (18 pts)] A mass of 1 kg is attached to a spring with restoring/spring constant  $k = 25$  newton/m.
- (a) (2 pts) Assuming there is no damping and that the system is driven by the forcing term  $20 \cos(\omega_f t)$  newtons, find a value of  $\omega_f$ , if any, that guarantees that the amplitude of the resulting oscillations grows without bound.
- (b) (16 pts) Now assume that the system is driven by the forcing term  $102 \cos t$  newtons and the damping force is 6 times the instantaneous velocity.
- (4 pts) Write down the differential equation for this mass-spring motion.
  - (4 pts) Verify that  $x_p(t) = 4 \cos t + \sin t$  is a particular solution to the differential equation in part (i).
  - (6 pts) Find the general solution of the differential equation.
  - (2 pts) Is the oscillator underdamped, overdamped or critically damped?

**SOLUTION:**

- (a)  $m = 1$ ,  $k = 25$ ,  $b = 0$ ,  $\omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{k}{m}} = \sqrt{\frac{25}{1}} = 5$ . For solutions to grow without bound, the oscillator needs to be in pure resonance, that is,  $\omega_f = \omega_0 = 5$ .
- (b) i. If  $x(t)$  is the displacement of the mass from its equilibrium position, we have  $\ddot{x} + 6\dot{x} + 25x = 102 \cos t$ .
- ii.  $\ddot{x}_p + 6\dot{x}_p + 25x_p = -4 \cos t - \sin t + 6(-4 \sin t + \cos t) + 25(4 \cos t + \sin t) = 102 \cos t$
- iii. The characteristic equation is  $r^2 + 6r + 25 = 0$  so that

$$r = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{6^2 - (4)(1)(25)}}{2} = \frac{-6 \pm \sqrt{-64}}{2} = -3 \pm 4i$$

The general solution is thus  $x(t) = x_h + x_p = e^{-3t}(c_1 \cos 4t + c_2 \sin 4t) + 4 \cos t + \sin t$

- iv.  $b^2 - 4mk = 6^2 - 4(1)(25) = -64 < 0$  so the oscillator is underdamped. ■

2. [2360/070822 (26 pts)] Consider the differential equation  $y''' - 4y'' + 5y' = f(t)$ .
- (a) (6 pts) Find the solution when  $f(t) = 0$ .
- (b) (4 pts) For the following  $f(t)$ , write down the appropriate form of the particular solution that would be used for the Method of Undetermined Coefficients. Do **not** solve for the coefficients. No justification needed and no partial credit available.
- $f(t) = t^2 e^{3t}$
  - $f(t) = 3t \sin t$
  - $f(t) = 5e^{-t} \sin t$
  - $f(t) = \frac{(t^2 - 1)(t + 2) \sin t}{t + 1}$  for  $t > 0$
- (c) (16 pts) Now let  $f(t) = 40t - 7 - 6e^{2t}$ .
- (10 pts) Find the particular solution.
  - (4 pts) Write the general solution to the differential equation.
  - (2 pts) Identify the transient and steady state solutions.

**SOLUTION:**

- (a) The characteristic equation is  $r^3 - 4r^2 + 5r = r(r^2 - 4r + 5) = 0 \implies r = 0, 2+i, 2-i$ . Thus  $y_h = c_1 + e^{2t}(c_2 \cos t + c_3 \sin t)$ .
- (b) i.  $y_p = (At^2 + Bt + C)e^{3t}$
- ii.  $y_p = (At + B) \cos t + (Ct + D) \sin t$
- iii.  $y_p = e^{-t}(A \cos t + B \sin t)$
- iv. Note that  $f(t)$  can be simplified to  $(t - 1)(t + 2) \sin t = (t^2 + t - 2) \sin t$ . Thus

$$y_p = (At^2 + Bt + C) \cos t + (Et^2 + Ft + G) \sin t$$

- (c) i. The initial guess for  $y_p = A + Bt + Ce^{2t}$ . However, since constants are solutions of the differential equation, the first two terms must be multiplied by  $t$  giving  $y_p = At + Bt^2 + Ce^{2t}$ . Then

$$y_p' = A + 2Bt + 2Ce^{2t}$$

$$y_p'' = 2B + 4Ce^{2t}$$

$$y_p''' = 8Ce^{2t}$$

and

$$y_p''' - 4y_p'' + 5y_p' = 8Ce^{2t} - 4(2B + 4Ce^{2t}) + 5(A + 2Bt + 2Ce^{2t}) = 40t - 7 - 6e^{2t}$$

$$(8C - 16C + 10C)e^{2t} + (10B)t + (-8B + 5A) = 40t - 7 - 6e^{2t}$$

$$2Ce^{2t} + 10Bt + (-8B + 5A) = 40t - 7 - 6e^{2t}$$

$$2C = -6 \implies C = -3$$

$$10B = 40 \implies B = 4$$

$$-8(4) + 5A = -7 \implies A = 5$$

Thus  $y_p = -3e^{2t} + 4t^2 + 5t$ .

ii.  $y(t) = y_h(t) + y_p(t) = c_1 + e^{2t}(c_2 \cos t + c_3 \sin t) - 3e^{2t} + 4t^2 + 5t$

- iii. There is no transient solution (no part of the solution tends to zero as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ). There is no steady state solution as the entire solution grows without bound ( $c_1$  will be overwhelmed by the other terms as  $t \rightarrow \infty$ ).

3. [2360/070822 (30 pts)] Consider the Euler-Cauchy equation  $x^2y'' - 12y = \frac{49}{x^3}$ ,  $x > 0$  with initial conditions  $y(1) = 5$ ,  $y'(1) = -1$ .

- (a) (8 pts) Assuming solutions of the form  $y(x) = x^r$ , solve the associated homogeneous equation.  
 (b) (6 pts) Show that your solution(s) to part (a) form(s) a basis for the solution space of the homogeneous equation.  
 (c) (10 pts) Find the general solution to the original nonhomogeneous equation.  
 (d) (6 pts) Solve the initial value problem.

**SOLUTION:**

- (a)  $y = x^r \implies y' = rx^{r-1} \implies y'' = r(r-1)x^{r-2}$ . Substituting these into the homogeneous equation gives

$$x^2y'' - 12y = x^2(r)(r-1)x^{r-2} - 12x^r = x^r(r^2 - r - 12) = 0$$

yielding the characteristic equation  $r^2 - r - 12 = (r-4)(r+3) = 0 \implies r = -3, 4$ . The solutions to the homogeneous equation are thus  $y = x^{-3}$  and  $y = x^4$  giving the general solution as  $y = c_1x^4 + c_2x^{-3}$ .

- (b) A basis for the solution space will consist of two linearly independent solutions.

$$x^2(x^{-3})'' - 12x^{-3} = x^2(-3)(-4)x^{-5} - 12x^{-3} = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

$$x^2(x^4)'' - 12x^4 = x^2(4)(3)x^2 - 12x^4 = 0 \quad \checkmark$$

So both  $y_1 = x^{-3}$  and  $y_2 = x^4$  are solutions to the homogeneous equation. Now check for linear independence.

$$W[x^{-3}, x^4](x) = \begin{vmatrix} x^{-3} & x^4 \\ -3x^{-4} & 4x^3 \end{vmatrix} = 7 \neq 0$$

Thus the two solutions are linearly independent. The dimension of the solution space is 2 since the equation is second order. Therefore,  $\{x^{-3}, x^4\}$  forms a basis for the solution space of the homogeneous equation.

- (c) We must use variation of parameters to find the particular solution in the form  $y_p = v_1(x)y_1(x) + v_2(x)y_2(x)$ . We let  $y_1 = x^{-3}$  and  $y_2 = x^4$ . To use the variation of parameters formula, we need to rewrite the differential equation as  $y'' - 12x^{-2}y = 49x^{-5}$  giving  $f(x) = 49x^{-5}$ . Using the Wronskian from part (b) we have

$$v_1 = \int \frac{-y_2 f}{W[y_1, y_2]} dx = \int \frac{-x^4 (49x^{-5})}{7} dx = -7 \int \frac{dx}{x} = -7 \ln|x| = -7 \ln x \quad (x > 0)$$

$$v_2 = \int \frac{y_1 f}{W[y_1, y_2]} dx = \int \frac{x^{-3} (49x^{-5})}{7} dx = 7 \int x^{-8} dx = -x^{-7}$$

$$y_p = -7x^{-3} \ln x - x^{-7}x^4 = -7x^{-3} \ln x - x^{-3}$$

The general solution to the nonhomogeneous equation is thus

$$y(x) = c_1 x^{-3} + c_2 x^4 - 7x^{-3} \ln x$$

where the  $x^{-3}$  term in the particular solution has been absorbed into the  $c_1$  term.

(d) Apply the initial conditions. We need  $y'(x) = -3c_1 x^{-4} + 4c_2 x^3 - 7x^{-4} + 21x^{-4} \ln x$ .

$$y(1) = c_1 + c_2 = 5$$

$$y'(1) = -3c_1 + 4c_2 - 7 = -1$$

Using Cramer's Rule

$$c_1 = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} 5 & 1 \\ -1 & 4 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -3 & 4 \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{21}{7} = 3 \qquad c_2 = \frac{\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 5 \\ -3 & -1 \end{vmatrix}}{\begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ -3 & 4 \end{vmatrix}} = \frac{14}{7} = 2$$

Thus the solution to the initial value problem is

$$y(x) = 2x^{-3} + 3x^4 - 7x^{-3} \ln x = 3x^4 + x^{-3} (2 - 7 \ln x)$$



4. [2360/070822 (12 pts)] The following parts are not related.

(a) (8 pts) Convert the following initial value problem into a system of first order initial value problems. If possible, write your answer using matrices.

$$\cos t \frac{d^4 y}{dt^4} - 2e^t \frac{d^2 y}{dt^2} = 3 \quad y(1) = 1, y'(1) = -1, y''(1) = 2, y'''(1) = 0 \quad 0 \leq t < \pi/2$$

(b) (4 pts) Which of the following differential equations describes a conservative system? No explanation necessary and no partial credit available.

- i.  $\ddot{x} = (\dot{x})^2$
- ii.  $\ddot{x} = x^2 + t^2$
- iii.  $3\ddot{x} = -5x^2$
- iv.  $2\ddot{x} + 2\dot{x} + 3x = 0$

**SOLUTION:**

(a) Let  $u_1 = y$ ,  $u_2 = y'$ ,  $u_3 = y''$ , and  $u_4 = y'''$ . Then

$$u_1' = y' = u_2$$

$$u_2' = y'' = u_3$$

$$u_3' = y''' = u_4$$

$$u_4' = y^{(4)} = (3 + 2e^t y'') / \cos t = (2e^t \sec t) u_3 + 3 \sec t$$

Since this a linear equation, we can write it using matrices as

$$\begin{bmatrix} u_1' \\ u_2' \\ u_3' \\ u_4' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 2e^t \sec t & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} u_1 \\ u_2 \\ u_3 \\ u_4 \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 3 \sec t \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{bmatrix} u_1(1) \\ u_2(1) \\ u_3(1) \\ u_4(1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ -1 \\ 2 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

(b) Conservative systems must be governed by equations of the form  $m\ddot{x} + V'(x) = 0$ . Thus iii is the only choice; i and iv are damped and ii is non-autonomous.



5. [2360/070822 (14 pts)] The following parts are not related.

(a) (6 pts) Consider the linear operator

$$L(\vec{y}) = a_9(t)y^{(9)}(t) + a_8(t)y^{(8)}(t) + \cdots + a_1(t)y'(t) + a_0(t)y(t)$$

where  $a_0(t), a_1(t), \dots, a_9(t)$  are continuous on some interval  $I$ .

i. (3 pts) Is the set of solutions to  $L(\vec{y}) = 1$  a vector space? Justify your answer.

ii. (3 pts) Let  $y_1(t), y_2(t), \dots, y_{10}(t)$  be solutions to  $L(\vec{y}) = 0$ . Is the set  $\{y_1, y_2, \dots, y_{10}\}$  a basis for the solution space of  $L(\vec{y}) = 0$ ? Justify your answer.

(b) (8 pts) Find the general solution of  $y^{(5)} + 2y^{(4)} + y''' = 0$ .

**SOLUTION:**

(a) i. No.  $\vec{0}$  is not in the set since the equation is nonhomogeneous.

ii. The set consists of 10 vectors and the dimension of the solution space is 9 since we are dealing with a ninth order differential equation. The vectors are thus linearly dependent and cannot form a basis for the space.

(b) The characteristic equation is

$$r^5 + 2r^4 + r^3 = r^3(r^2 + 2r + 1) = r^3(r + 1)^2 = 0$$

which has roots  $r = 0$  with multiplicity 3 and  $r = -1$  with multiplicity 2. The general solution is

$$y(t) = c_1 + c_2t + c_3t^2 + c_4e^{-t} + c_5te^{-t}$$

